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A N
Expostulatory LETTER
To a CERTAIN
Right Honourable PERSON
UPON HIS
LATE PROMOTION.

Ille qui quondam——

VIRG.



L O N D O N :
Printed for M. COOPER, at the *Globe*, in
Paternoster-Row. 1747.

110911, 1747 190

sorry, extremely sorry, if he who has been set forth to us, in Writing and Sculpture, as a Model of *human Excellency*, should at last, to gratify any Passion, condescend to sink into a Level with the common Tribe of St—m—n.

You know, my L—, that among the antient Philosophers, there were divers *Sects* or *Schools*, who were all equally envious of each other, and jealous of the Glory of their respective Masters. When a Man of *happy Genius*, capable himself of beginning a new *Sect*, was drawn to subscribe the Doctrine of any one of these Masters, it was esteemed no small Honour by his other Followers. But if this Genius had before been employed in *ridiculing* this very Sect, if he had even to his Face, for a long Course of Years, set himself against the original *Institutor* of it, would not the Disciples of this Head, upon the Conversion of our Genius, have as much Room to triumph in their Conquest over the Man, as to boast of the Acquisition made to their Body? Would not the *new Subscriber*, in the Opinion of his old and impartial Friends, lose much of his former Merit; nay, even all of it, that before raised him to any particular Degree of Eminence? He becomes

a Scholar only, who might have been a Master, and has no Chance now left of setting up for himself with Reputation.

But if a Sect more crafty than the rest, the Enemies of *Wisdom* and *Virtue*, begun by some Philosophic LOYOLA, should seem no longer to exist, and yet be strong in Existence; should, under the Mask of some other Profession, ensnare into their Society the greatest Opposers of it, and engage them by such Ties, that it was next to impossible to get back with Safety and Honour; would not this be a Point gained equally advantageous for them, and disreputable for those whom they had thus deceived? The latter must either keep the Secret, or suffer their Credulity to be exposed: And the Consequence of one hand would be, that they must still drudge on in the Work of the Society, without being suffered to rise to the Head of it, which Jealousy would prevent; and of the other, that having by their Weakness lost the Confidence of their old Friends, it would be next to impossible for them to return again into their former Lead.—Reputation may be lost in the greatest Men, and is seldom recovered either by Diligence or Abilities.

To apply this, my L——, if you have not already made the Application : What think you of the *School* of W——E, whom you formerly for many Years opposed with so much Eloquence and Applause ? Does it not still exist in his *Disciples*, Men greatly inferior to him in Abilities, and yet without any Principles but what they derived from him ? Take Care, my L——d ; for I am afraid that you, who so long held out against the *Master*, have at last been shamefully taken in by the *Scholars*. And what will be the Consequence, should this by and by appear to be really the Case ? I doubt it will not turn out either to your *Honour*, or your *Satisfaction*. If you go into all the Measures of these Men, you will manifestly be led by them, and contradict in *Actions*, what you have so often advanced in *Words* : And this, you must allow with me, will be no very *honourable* Circumstance. If you oppose them too strongly in their darling Scheme of Ad——n, is it not probable we shall see one of these Effects of your Promotion ; either that you are over-ruled and made a Cypher in all Debates, or obliged in Disgust to quit your Seat and O——ce ? Neither of which, I presume, will be very *satisfactory*

factory to a Man of your L—'s elevated Spirit.

For my own Part, I must confess this to be my Opinion, and think I have justly formed it upon the Observation of four or five Years past. These Men, your Ass—es, are really of the *W—lian* School, how much soever they may disclaim the Name. Their Principles are the very same which to your L—p were ever as unacceptable as the Doctrine of ARISTOTLE to a true NEWTONIAN, or the Jargon of the Monkish Commentators to a rational and honest Divine. They serve their C—y only for what she can give them, and will never long down with your Schemes of *Frugality*, when once they come to touch either themselves, or their immediate Dependents. Money, to all M—s, is a *necessary Instrument*, but with Them it is the *Unum Necessarium*. It was the general Cry, that there was not a Man among them of *Genius* and *Spirit* : They knew, my L —, that the Nation, with the greatest Justice, ascribed both of these Qualities to you. It was to give a Sanction to their Measures, not to prescribe others of your own, that they invited you among them. The same Steps, they thought, taken in Concert with you, would
not

not be so subject to Criticism. In like manner, upon the Defeat of their Head, they took in L— C——T : But when he, as was natural to a superior Mind, took upon him the Lead, they united against him, and by mere Weight thrust him out of the C-b—t. Tho' I never pretended to the Spirit of Prophecy, I cannot help, from the Nature of Things, expecting to hear the same Tidings of your L——p, as soon as your *busy Prying* shall have made it necessary for their own Safety.

When your L——p went to *I —— d*, the whole *B——sb* Nation were pleased to know his *M ——* was so well represented ; and the Esteem of the *I——b*, which they had at first for your Name and Character, grew into Love and Veneration, which were every Day increasing thro' the new Benefits you were meditating for them. Why then, my L—, did you slight the Affection of a People, that was growing to the highest Pitch of Fondness †, and among whom you had
no

† “ Since your Arrival in this Kingdom, you have acquired a thoro' Knowledge of its Interest, which you apply to the Service of his Majesty, and the Publick ; in such a Manner, that your Administration will be always remember'd with Gratitude and Honour. Your Management,

no Controuler or Affociate, to accept a Charge which at best is burthenfome and envied? in which you were not fure either that your Opinion would prevail, or that you might not, undefignedly to be fure on your Side, but by your new F—ds maliciously contrived, bring a Cloud upon your bright Character, and incur the Difpleafure of a People, whom you had both Will and Capacity to ferve, but was defeated of all the Means, and cramp'd in every Opportunity?— But perhaps it was not a Matter of Choice, but only the Effect of too eafy Compliance. Let us fee then, if we can find a better Reason for this Transpofition of O—ce.

The Luftre that would have attended your I—b Ad———n, they forefaw, if protracted to the fame Length that of late Years has been granted to other Ad———rs, could not have been looked upon by fome Eyes without painful Dazzling,
B
and

“ ment, fo generous of your own, and fo frugal of the
 “ public Treafure, joined with a Conduct fo open and
 “ fincere, without the leaft Tincture or Suspicion of
 “ private Views, leave us at a Lofs to determine, which
 “ to admire moft, the true Policy, or the Probity of our
 “ Governor.”

THOMAS PRIOR, Esq; Dedication to his *Authentic Narrative, &c.*

and unwelcome Shame. It was not proper that a whole Nation, long accustomed to Variety of *Masters*, with little Variation of *Sorrow*, should be suffered to make too close Comparison between distant Extremes. An *I—b* V—er—y with a great Soul, and great Abilities, might have an Opportunity of making himself adored: But an *E—sb* *M—r of St—e*, with the same valuable Qualities, will be sure, in such Com—y as he must be obliged to keep, to lose some of the Character he brings with him into O—ce. Since they cannot rise to a Level with him, they will either bring him down to a Level with them, or vote him out of the Society with some Brand of Ignominy invented by themselves. This, my L—, makes me fear that they have been too hard for you in the late Change. Your quick Imagination, and ready Zeal to serve your C—y in the best Manner, laid you open to the Delusion of your Enemies. As they acted in this Manner towards another tow’ring Genius, why was you not cautious, why did you not suspect the Tr——y when they held forth the Temptation?

But -

But enough of this, till your L——p discovers more by your own Penetration : For when once a little appears to your own Sight, your warm Fancy, and impatient Temper, will see all they have done and said thro' the same Medium. Then must the Struggle be, to try who has got the best Footing ; and then, unless you previously secure a few Auxiliaries of your own Way of Thinking, I am much afraid you will be foil'd. Begin therefore to provide in Time, my L —— p Call in G——le to reclaim the S——ls, and recommend B———d, whose Scheme of Sup——es is now said to have taken Effect, to preside in the Tr——y.— But how ? — That's the Difficulty. The Struggle will be then brought on immediately, and who will prevail in that Circumstance, we have too much past Experience not to forebode.

I remember about three or four Years ago to have read a little Pamphlet, which your L—— is thought to have read before me, entitled, *A Congratulatory Letter to a certain Right Honourable Person upon his late Disappointment*. You will see that I had some View towards this Title when I made choice of my own, under

which to address your L——p. The Author insists much upon the envied State of a M——r, and remarks particularly the Disadvantage of not being a *personal Favourite*. I would quote here many of his Words, if I was not obliged to own that I do not think them directly to my Purpose. You have not hitherto been called *rapacious*, nor have you hitherto shewn so much *Inconstancy* as that other Right Honourable Person: But however, pray let me ask you, whether you do not think it ‘ a little unpleasant to be obliged to ‘ go every Day into that Closet, and to ask ‘ Favours of a M—— who is no Hypo- ‘ crite, and naturally warm ? ’ Who cannot but remember, besides a thousand Things that have passed in the H—— about F——n Interests, *H——r* Troops, obst——te Support of evil M——rs, Adul——n to the Th——e, a very *particular Affair* that happened some Years ago, which, tho’ rather a *private Family Matter*, than a Business of *public Concern*, had, in the Nature of it, no small Tendency to alienate Minds of a certain Disposition. The Point, my L——, was carried on your Side ; but that is far from being an Argument, that all
Re-

Resentment of it has subsided on the other.

I do not remember to have heard, that you ever publicly declared, in the H—e or out of it, * *that upon no account whatever you would accept of a Place*; but your L——p will excuse me if I cannot help thinking that the late D——s of M—— was confident you had taken to your self such a Resolution; at least, that you would not accept of any thing in Conjunction with Men whom you had so many Years opposed, and your Opposition to whom was the only Motive of that great Lady's Regard to you in her last Moments. She would not pretend to prescribe to you, or to the Gentleman in the other H—e, who shared her Favours with you, on account of his *seeming Steadiness*, as she did to her own G——d—n; but that single Prescription, in the same Instrument that gave to her two favourite Pat—ts a small Part, and to him thus restrained almost all the rest of her immense Fortune that was not before appropriated, sufficiently shews what were her Expectations from all whom she had distinguished by her Bounty.—But, perhaps, neither
you

* See Congratulatory Letter, p. 12.

you nor Mr. P—, both Men of such distinguished Abilities, look'd upon the Opinion of an *old Woman*, from whom nothing more could be expected, as worth your Regard after her Death.

My L—, I have call'd this an *Expostulatory Letter*. Some Passages in it already written may be misconstrued as *Flattery*; but, on my Word, they were intended only as a just Panegyrick on the Virtues you have *hitherto* shown. If any Paragraphs that follow should appear a little too free on the other Side, they are not in the least designed as *Invective*. The Justice of them can only appear in the Event; and if that should happen better than I fear, I will be as ready to own my *Mistake*, as I am now to publish my Apprehensions: It is all but *Expostulation*, directed by Appearances, without absolutely insisting on any one Fact.

I have a Thought, which is the principal Occasion of my writing, how I conceive you may at once find out the Men you are to deal with, and place *yourself* in a fair and strong Light before the People of *E——d*. Your L——p has already justified me in what I may advance,

vance, and therefore I shall do it the more boldly. It is only to try *your Power* upon a few Points which you have formerly insisted on from Men *then in Power*, of which, I think, these are some of the Principal.

In the first Place, my L—, it is natural for a Man to fall upon the Point that most nearly concerns himself: As an Author therefore, writing to a M——— whose Office empowers him to be the Scourge of Authors, I must recommend the *Liberty of the Press* to your especial Patronage. The great Importance of this Privilege, and its close Connexion with the Liberties of the People, no Man knows better than you, nor has with more Eloquence display'd: And at the same time that this Branch of Liberty is tenderly preserved, that of the *Stage*, upon your own Arguments,* ought to be restored, that the *English* Genius, as usual, may rove unrestrained over all the Fields of Imagination. You, my Lord, have nothing to fear from the Satire of either the Press or the Stage; Engines that are formidable
only

* *Vide* Debates on the Bill for restraining the Licentiousness of the Stage, &c.

only to such narrow, self-convicted Minds, as we had the Misfortune to be governed by when the restraining Law took place. Shall a * * * in Power tremble like a *W——e*, to whom the Stings in a *Beggar's Opera* and a *Pasquin* were insupportable, and who, nevertheless, could form to himself no better Defence than was to be found in *Gazeteers*, *Hypocrits*, *Corn-cutters*, and *London Journals*?

But while *Cor——n*, the Source of all our other Misfortunes, still continues to walk abroad without Disguise, perhaps I should be thought unpardonable to dwell on any other Subject, before I come to that. For, as your *L——p* once very well expressed it, ‘ If the *Cr——n* should by Places, Pensions and Bribes get the absolute Direction of the two Houses of *P——t*, our *Con———n* will from that Moment be destroyed. There will be no Occasion for the *Cr——n* to lay aside the Forms of *P———t*; for under that Shadow, a *K——* may govern more arbitrarily than without it. To a Gentleman of Family and Fortune, a *P———n* perhaps would not be an Inducement for entirely laying
‘ aside

' aside the P——t, because it is only by his
 ' Service there that he can acquire a P——n;
 ' but it may induce him to approve the
 ' worst Measures, consent to the most
 ' excessive Grants, and the most oppres-
 ' sive Laws, pass the most obscure Ac-
 ' counts, acquit the most heinous Cri-
 ' minals, and condemn the most active
 ' Patriots: And if a Majority of each
 ' H—e of P———t consisted of such
 ' Men, would it not be very ridiculous
 ' to talk of our Constitution, or boast
 ' our Liberties? *

It was towards the End of last P——t,
 a Time when Matters of this kind are
 commonly the most strongly debated,
 that your L———p was pleased to express
 yourself to this Purpose. Another P——
 ———t is now so near expiring, that
 Briguing is already said to be on foot to-
 wards the next E——n. If no Law has
 yet been passed to exclude P———rs
 from Seats, the same Consequences are
 still to be feared, and the same Argu-
 ments will hold their Force. Would your
 L———p be so good therefore to try
 them again, now you are a M———r,
 they would either have their due Weight,
 C and

* *Vide* Debates on the P——n Bill in 1740.

and procure the Law in question ; or they must so affront your Brethren in the A——n, that they would immediately unite to drive you, as they did Lord C——t, from before the Th——, and restore you to the glorious Condition of a P——t.

As to P——cem-n, the other Set of C——t In——nts, something, I think, has been done during the present P——nt to exclude a certain Number of them, about thirteen, in the next. Shall not this Exclusion be farther extended, now your L———p is in Power? Either you can do this, or your M———y is far from being that of a Chief. But it was frankly owned by our other P——t S——, when *in* Place, that a *general Pl—* Bill was never intended by you Men of Sense, how much soever you talked of it when *out* ; and that a *P——n* Bill, taking the Power from the C——n of gratifying its Friends, is both impracticable and unreasonable.* Did your L———p, upon accepting the same Pl——, fall into the same Opinion? If so, we must with Sorrow indeed confess, that we have little Hopes of succeeding effectually against *Cor——n*.

Your

* *Vide* Faction detected, &c.

Your L——p's *Politeness*, as a N——n, was never doubted ; but as a P——t, we remember you were always zealous against too much P——y Adulation to the Th——e. You were not for making Ad——s empty Echoes to Sp——s, but for couching them in general Terms only, according to the ancient Custom of Par——t; and with such a Guard, that every Particular might be afterwards debated, or even denied, if it was found requisite for the Good of the Nation. May we not expect therefore, if you continue in Power, to see the Ad——s of both H——s reduced to their original Simplicity? May we not expect the H——e of L——, in particular, zealous to preserve, in all they say to the Th——e, the Dignity of the hereditary and constant great C——l of the Kingdom? † But for M——rs to advise this in P——t, whatever P——ts may venture to do, I am afraid would not be exceedingly well taken in another Place. However, my L——, if you try, it will show you to be still the same good Man; and you must of Course either keep your Post with Honour, or lose it to be adored:

C 2

Another

† *Vide* Debates, Protests in 1740, 1742, &c.

Another Point, my L—d, that has been very much stickled for in both H—ses, and for which no Man ever shewed himself warmer than you, is the Right of having all the Orders of A——ls, G——ls, M——rs at foreign Courts, the Letters between them and the Boards here at home, and all Papers that tend to the clearing up of doubtful Facts, regarding either Peace or War, the Instructions of Statesmen, or the Conduct of Commanders, laid before the Parli——t, and freely inspected by all the Members of either H—se. The C——s indeed call themselves the Grand Inquest ; it was they that took upon them the Affair of the Enquiry about T——n, and now call for the Minutes of those immortal Trials that were had in consequence of their Ad——s, and are now to be overhauled by them. But a M——r, let him be in which H—se he may, hath usually so much Influence, if not upon the *Demands* that are made, which also is very much suspected, at least on the *Answers* that are given, that the Mode and Fashion of proceeding thereupon will bear the Impression of his Opinion and Choice.

Now,

Now, my L—, for the future, if when Applications for any such Papers are moved for, there be no unreasonable Objections to such Motions in P——t, nor any Refusal or Reserve in the Compliance, I shall look upon this as a farther Instance of your *inflexible Virtue*, and know you to be the same great Man as when you gave your solemn Opinion, under your Hand, ‘ That
 ‘ the Denial of these Lights puts a full
 ‘ Stop to any farther effectual Enquiry
 ‘ into the Conduct of the War ; an En-
 ‘ quiry so becoming the Sen—te, and so
 ‘ unanimously called for by the Voice of
 ‘ the Nation, that outward Appearances
 ‘ had at once raised the Curiosity, the
 ‘ Astonishment, and the Concern of a
 ‘ brave and loyal People, willing to sacri-
 ‘ fice their Lives and Fortunes for the
 ‘ Honour and Advantage of his Majesty
 ‘ and this Kingdom, in the Prosecution
 ‘ of this just and necessary War.” *

That very Affair, my L—d, upon which you were then so zealous, remains still *unenquired* into : And how many other Affairs, equally worthy of a strict Enquiry, we have had since, I would rather

* *Vide* Protest concerning the Affair of Admiral *V——n* in the *West-Indies*. Debates in 1741, &c.

ther leave our Enemies with Exultation to tell, than take upon me to enumerate in this small Pamphlet. Disappointed Projects! un-fighting or ill-fighting Commanders! fruitless Expeditions! Fleets unman'd or unvictualled! All these, and a thousand other Things, are doubtless proper Objects of Enquiry at this Time.

Just as I had written this, the Papers inform'd me that poor *Lestock*, who for two Years together had been under Inquisition for his Conduct in the *Mediterranean*, who was not many Months ago acquitted, and hath since had an unsuccessful Trial to retrieve his Honour in a fresh Command, is gone to give up his Accounts before a higher Tribunal than any I have been talking of. But the Affair he was employed in, my L—, ought not to be passed over for all that; the L—d Com——r is still in Being, and Evidence enough may be now had, to prove where lay the Blame of our Miscarriage.

Even C—ts M—l themselves, my L—, erected only to *make Enquiry*, deserve, in the general Opinion of *Britons*, to be the Subject of it. We should be very glad, thro' your Means, to know upon what Principles of *Honour* they condemn

demn or acquit, either at the *H—se—G—ds Westminster*, or aboard the *Prince of Orange* at *Deptford*: And more glad should we be, if thro' your Means all such Courts were abolished, as, either from the Nature of them, or the Partiality of their Proceedings, never give Satisfaction to the Publick, nor to any other Person but the very Man, whom they sc—n from Just—e by their Sentence.

About six Years ago, when it was proposed to *augment the Army*, your L——p joined in Opinion with many other noble Persons, that it ought not to be done by raising of new Regiments, as being the most expensive Manner, and also the most dangerous to the Liberties of *Britain*, but by adding a certain Number of Men to each of the old Corps; and your Reasons for it were acknowledged to be very good. You could not help suspecting, ‘ That the raising of new
 ‘ Corps, at that Time, when the Electi-
 ‘ on of a new Parliament drew so near,
 ‘ might be of dangerous Tendency to the
 ‘ Constitution of this Kingdom, and re-
 ‘ late more to Civil than Military Service,
 ‘ by opening a Door to introduce a large
 ‘ Body

‘ Body of commission’d Pen — rs.” †
 And farther, you found, ‘ That this Aug-
 ‘ mentation by new Corps was by one 3d
 ‘ more expensive than that of adding
 ‘ private Men to Companies ;’ with A-
 bundance more too long to be here tran-
 scribed. Now you cannot but observe,
 that your grand Reason, the Proximity of
 a new El——n, and the Danger from
 commissioned Pen——rs, is pretty near-
 ly as strong now, as it was in *December*
1740. Surely then your L——p will
 not consent, at this ‘Time, to increase the
 Number of commission’d P——rs ! at
 least, not without giving us a better Rea-
 son than you then used, for doing in *1746*
 what was not to be done in *1740*.

Frugality, my L—, seems to have been
 another strong Motive with you in the first
 of those Times : We ascribe to the same
 Virtue some late Resolutions, for reduc-
 ing the most expensive Parts of his Ma-
 jesty’s Army, raised and increased to sup-
 port the Splendor of the *British* Monarch;
 and we cannot enough admire the Con-
 descension of his Majesty, in submitting
 to be thus curtailed of the outward Trap-
 pings of Royalty, and super-abundantly
 sup-

† See Protests on the Augmentation in *1740*.

supplying the Loss with true Greatness of Mind.—But when you were upon this frugal Consideration, is it not strange that your former Arguments did not recur, and induce you, with the Savings, to add more Men to the old Corps, rather than erect new ones? Might not this have made the Augmentation amount to 15,000 private Men, instead of 10,000 private Men and Officers, which is said to be the Number proposed to arise from this new Regulation?

I am aware it will be said, that we are already too thinly Officer'd. This, I know, was a M——l Argument in 1740, when you were a P——t, and joined with the rest of that Denomination to render it ridiculous. Will it not look a little inconsistent then with the former Character of * * * *, tho' not with that of a M———r, if you should now assume that Argument, even supposing the Fact it is brought in support of to be true? For that I do not call in question. I am for having as many Officers, if in them lies the chief Strength of an Army, as may put us upon an Equality with the *French*. But your L——p will not deny that six Years ago you knew the

Constitution and Discipline of both the *French* and *English* Armies, and of Course the Difference betwixt them, which enabled you *then* to form a Judgment of the Advantages on either Side. Must we attribute it therefore to *Change of Opinion*, occasioned by what has since happened, or only to the *Conveniency of a new Situation*, that we are *now* to have ten new Regiments, instead of adding more Men to the old? But the Field - Officers of M——es, who, to be sure, had no need of any, must probably be provided for; and it may be necessary to make a Number of Provisions for *needy Gentlemen* in the several Companies.

‘ That our Naval Force has, in the
 ‘ present War, been misapplied; that
 ‘ our Commerce has been exposed to
 ‘ petty Spoilers, in a Degree never known
 ‘ before; that our Convoys have been
 ‘ far from adding Security to our Traders;
 ‘ and that with the most powerful Fleet
 ‘ in the World we have suffer’d all that
 ‘ can fall upon the most defenceless Na-
 ‘ tion, cannot be denied.—Nor is it any
 ‘ Degree of Temerity to affirm, that these
 ‘ Misfortunes have been brought upon
 ‘ us by either Negligence or Treachery;
 for

‘ for besides that no other Cause can be
 ‘ assigned for the Losses which a power-
 ‘ ful People suffer from an Enemy of in-
 ‘ ferior Force, there is the strongest Au-
 ‘ thority for asserting, that our Maritime
 ‘ Affairs have been ill conducted, and that
 ‘ therefore the Regulation of them is very
 ‘ seasonably and properly solicited by the
 ‘ Merchants.†

These, my L —, or Words much like them, I believe, are known by you to have been spoken about five Years ago, in a Debate I have referred to below. I have not heard that since that Time the Grievances complained of have been in any considerable Degree redressed: We have so many Instances to the contrary, that no reasonable Man would put me upon the Task of giving a List of them: But if none had happened till the present Year, that memorable one of the *West-India* Fleet, under Convoy of a Man who will be ever *famous* for just as good Reason as he that burnt the Temple of *Diana* at *Ephesus*, would be alone sufficient to continue the Charge I have quoted in full Force, and to justify the Application I

D 2

would

† *Vide* Debates on the Bill for better protecting and securing the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom in the Time of War.

make of it. It is only this, my L——, which is the Burthen of each Division in my Song; that it is expected you should see some Remedy applied to this growing Evil, or push your Aff——es so far as to make them break with you, and drive you back into the Arms of your Country, where you will be cherish'd till a better Time offers to make you appear with full Advantage in her Service.

When I say a *better Time*, I would not be thought to mean that there ever can be a more *urgent Time*. The whole Thing, my L——, is, that I do not like the Com——y you are in, and should be glad to see you either oblige them to desert you, or prevail on your self to desert them; unless, which indeed would be best of all, (but I fear, scarcely to be hoped) you could bring them to unite with you, in the disinterested Service of G— B——. You must either chuse your Fellow-labourers, which I heartily wish, or I cannot help thinking you will *labour in vain*. There must be no C——ty or B——gh Interest prevail, no clandestine Trade conniv'd at, in Defiance of Law, in the M——y that can ever put this Nation in that high State of Felicity and Power,

Power, she is capable, under Providence of acquiring.

In order to reduce the common Enemy to Reason, in case the War should continue, I am sensible there must next Year be a very great Army; and perhaps it is also true, that mercenary Troops are not now to be found with the same Facility as they might have been two or three Years ago; I will suppose farther, that the *H——n Mercenaries*, by their Behaviour in the two last Campaigns, are a little more tolerable to the Troops of that Nation which pays for both. I am in Raptures to reflect that the Heats occasioned by certain *Partialities*, in some degree perhaps true, and in a greater supposed, did so easily subside at the Appearance of the common Danger, and give Way to an almost general Union of Hearts, Hands and Purse, in support of a Protestant Succession, and our present Constitution, Civil and Religious. This restrains me much on a certain Topick, which would otherwise have called me back more than all the rest to the Review of what was said some three or four Years ago, and obliged me to rouse your Lordship's Memory with some of your own Thunder.

der. † But suffer me however a few Words.

If you now think in your Conscience, as an *En——n*, abstracted from a *M——r*, ‘ That considering the excessive and grievous Expences, incurred by the great Number of Foreign Troops, now in the Pay of *G——B——*, that his *M——y* ought, in Compassion to his People, loaded already with such numerous and heavy Taxes, such large and growing Debts, to exonerate his *Su——ts* of the Charge of those *Mercenaries*, which were at first taken into Pay without the Advice or Consent of *P——t* ; that such Exoneration would put a Stop to the Jealousies and Heart-burnings amongst his faithful *Su——ts* at Home, and his *Br——b* Forces abroad ;’ I say, my *L——*, if you now think all this, if this be the general Voice, you ought still to give your Opinion as freely as ever, and not as a *M——r* to recommend or vote for what you opposed as a *P——t*. I am not fond of flying Stories, which frequently prove to be only invented Calumnies ; but if there be any
Truth

† See Debates and Protests publish’d in the Years 1743, and 1744.

Truth in one that was spread not a Twelvemonth ago, which your L——p knows best, I cannot help observing, that tho' a L———t of I——d might stay at D——le, or any other Place on the Road, upon a slight Indisposition, while a M———l Question was passed; the same Conduct would not so well become a S———y of St——, who is himself a M———r, and would on such an Occasion be expected to attend, tho' chaired to the H——e wrapt up in Blankets.

It was undoubtedly Humanity, and not want of Regard to the Safety of your Country, that operated in your L———p, and all the N——le P——rs who joined with you in opposing the Clause for extending the Penalties of High Treason to the innocent Posterity of all Delinquents. Will not the same Humanity then appear in greater Lustre, when all the immediate Consequences of the Rebellion are over, and the Nation is restored to perfect Tranquillity, by repealing a Law which you scarcely thought justifiable in Times of the most imminent Danger? ‡

I should

‡ See Debates and Protest in the Session that began in 1744.

I should add a Word in favour of Mr. V——n, of whom your L——p has more than once expressed a very high Opinion ; but that, perhaps, would be thought a Word too much. Probably it is still the Opinion that his good Success, and the prodigious Favour of the People, have made a Change in him for the worse. This would indeed be very strange in a Man so famous for his honest Inflexibility. But we allow that no Man is infallible ; and if your L——p should, by and by, appear to be chang'd, upon Comparison of your *future* Sp——es and Conduct with your *former*, I shall not afterwards wonder at what may happen to any Man living.

The Reflexions that I have intermix'd throughout this Letter, and the Length I have already run it to, prevent my growing formal at the Conclusion, as I at first intended : Ought I not to have convinced both your L——p and all the World, by what I have said, that I am your sincere Admirer, Well-wisher, and very humble Servant ?

* * *

F I N I S.

